Project Description

Conceived by architect Rafael Viñoly, 432 Park Avenue is the tallest residential skyscraper in the Western Hemisphere. This apartment designed by John Beckmann and his design firm Axis Mundi has some of the most breathtaking views in Manhattan.

Known for their glamorous low-slung aesthetic, Axis Mundi took the challenge to design the residence for an American client living in China with a family of four, and an important art collection (including the likes of Cy Twombly, Gerhard Richter, Susan Frecon, Vík Muniz and Lisette Schumacher, among others).

In the dining room, a Bocci “28 Chandelier” hangs above an intricate marble and brass table by Henge, with ceramics by John Born. Entering the main living area, a monumental “Let it Be” sectional from Poltrona Frau sits on a silver custom-designed Joseph Carini wool and silk rug. A ‘Surface’ coffee table designed by Vincent Van Duysen and “Fulgens” armchairs in saddle leather by Antonio Citterio for B&B Italia create the penultimate space for entertaining.

The sensuous red library features custom-designed bookshelves in burnished brass and walnut, as a “Wing Sofa” in red velvet from Flexform floats atop a “Ponti” area rug from the Rug Company. “JJ Chairs” in Mongolian lamb fur from B&B Italia add a rock and roll swagger to the space. The kitchen accentuates the grey marble flooring and all-white color palette, with the exception of a few light wood and marble details.
Axis Mundi Design LLC.

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Studio Description
Axis Mundi is a leading contemporary architecture and interior design firm, specializing in the design of highly personalized residential, retail and cultural projects. The studio’s ethos draws from the infinitely rich vocabulary of design and material culture. The firm balances theory and practice, incorporating concepts and technologies that transform that language into new forms of expression relevant to today. Axis Mundi’s projects consistently stimulate both the intellect and the senses. They embody wit, urbanity and sophistication while offering a highly crafted sense of place.

Axis Mundi was launched by John Beckmann in 2004. He studied architecture, interior and industrial design, and received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Environmental Design from Parsons School of Design. During his studies, he apprenticed with master minimalist Joseph P. D’Urso and, after graduating, collaborated with various other design luminaries. Throughout his career he has honed an astute understanding of the intersections between architecture, design and contemporary art. Beckmann’s honors include a grant from the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts (1998) and a McDowell Colony Fellowship (2010).

Main projects
Private Residence, 432 Park Avenue, New York, USA
Private Residence, 1 Bond Street, New York, USA
Private Residence, Vista Tower, Chicago, USA
Greenwich Village Townhouse, New York
Sagaponack Cottage, Sagaponack, New York
Grand Army Plaza, Brooklyn, New York
XYZ House, Wengen, Switzerland (concept)
Cloud House, Lizard Head Pass, Colorado (concept)
Whitney Downtown Museum, New York (concept)
MoMA Tower, New York (concept)

Work in progress
Private Residence, 10 Waterside Square, New York, USA
Night Club, La Bas, New York, USA
Private Residence, 101 Wall Street, New York, USA
Minimal Surfaces Furniture
America: State of Emergency (Installation)